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Unit: 1734

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: Group Art Unit: 1734

: Examiner: L. Alejandro

## APPARATUS WITH CONTROL OF

Honorable Commissioner of  
Patents and Trademarks  
Washington, D. C. 20231

In accordance with the provisions of 37 C.F.R. 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98, the attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the documents listed on the attached form PTO-1449. It is respectfully requested that the documents be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that the documents be made of record therein and appear among the "References Cited" on any patent to issue therefrom.

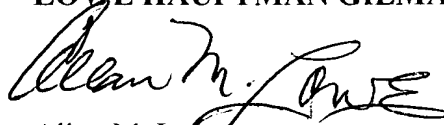
The undersigned certifies that, to the best of his knowledge, each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the

Serial No. 09/821,753

filing of this Information Disclosure Statement. 37 CFR 1.97(e)(1).

Respectfully submitted,

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**Date:** April 21, 2003

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